

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 04134 150904 Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 OMB-01 T-03 IO-12 EUR-25 ACDA-19

CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 RSR-01 /160 W

----- 058967

R 150820 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1448

INFO CINCPAC

SECDEF

AMCONSUL UDORN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 4134

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, TH

SUBJECT: NORTHEAST REGIONAL CI MEETING

REF: BANGKOK 0128

### SUMMARY

1. THE SEMI- ANNUAL THAI- U. S. REGIONAL COUNTERINSURGENCY MEETINGS IN THE NORTH AND NORTHEAST CONTINUE TO SHOW STEADY TREND TOWARD:

- A). THAI OFFICIAL COMPETENCE, INITIATIVE AND SELF CONFIDENCE;
- B). CLEAR RTG POLICY DECISIONS ABOUT CI STRATEGY AND THE EMERGENCE OF SPECIFIC FORWARD PLANNING ON AN INTER- AGENCY BASIS;
- C). BETTER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND LOCAL OFFICIALS AS WELL AS BETTER LATERAL COOPERATION.

THE RECENT NORTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING, CHAIRED BY THE CSOR/ RTA COMMANDER AND ATTENDED BY EIGHT KEY GOVERNORS AND THE REGIONAL POLICE LADERSHIP, ALSO INVOLVED KEY DEPARTMENT HEADS FROM BANGKOK IN TWO DAYS OF HARD WORK ON SPECIFIC PROBLEMS IN IMPLEMENTING THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 04134 150904 Z

CIVIL/ POLICE/ MILITARY INTENSIFIED PROGRAM IN CRITICAL NA KAE DISTRICT ( CSOC PLAN 14/15). THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF NA KAE DELIVERED A BLISTERING ACCOUNT OF IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED IN THE LOCAL PERFORMANCE OF RTG AGENCIES REPRESENTED BY HIGH OFFICIALS PRESENT, DEMONSTRATING IN THE PROCESS BOTH FORCEFULNESS AND COMPETENCE: EMPHASIS WAS ON MAKING A GOOD START SUCCEED BY SUSTAINING MOMENTUM.

2. KEY DECISIONS EVIDENT FROM THE DISCUSSIONS WERE:

- A). GOVERNORS WILL CONTROL THE POLICE IN ALL CI MATTERS;
- B). GREATER EMPHASIS ON LOCAL SECURITY THROUGH EXPANSION OF THE MILITIA ( VDC) AND VILLAGE SELF- DEFENSE PROGRAMS;
- C). GREATER MILITARY RELIANCE ON SMALL UNIT ENGAGEMENTS WITH INSURGENT MAIN FORCES ( TPLAF) UPON COMPLETION OF CURRENT TRAINING PROGRAMS.

END SUMMARY

3. INTELLIGENCE BRIEFINGS CONCLUDED THAT CT ARMED ACTIVITY IS UNDIMINISHED IN THE NORTHEAST PARTICULARLY IN THE PHU PHAN AREA, WESTERN UDORN AND SOUTHERN UBON. RATES OF ARMED INCIDENTS AND LOSSES OF ARMS TO THE CT, ESPECIALLY BY VILLAGE PROTECTION FORCES ( PLICE AND VDC) WHO BEAR BRUNT OF CT ATTACKS, CONTINUE TO BE TROUBLESOME. HOWEVER, COMMUNIST ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRESS IS STILL IMPEDED BY LACK OF TRAINING FOR MANY CADRE. COMMUNIST STRENGTHS ARE IN VILLAGE ORGANIZATION, IMPROVED ARMAMENT AND MOBILITY TO OUTMANEUVER RTG FORCES; THEY HAVE, ON THE OTHER HAND, DIFFICULTIES WITH COMMUNICATIONS, FOOD SUPPLY, MEDICAL SUPPORT AND PROPAGANDA METHODS.

4. THE POLICE REGION COMMANDER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT GOVERNORS AND DISTRICT OFFICERS NOW HAVE FULL CONTROL OVER POLICE ASSETS IN ALL MATTERS CONCERNING COMMUNIST SUPPRESSION IN THEIR JURISDICTION. HE HAS REMOVED THE PREVIOUS DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER FROM NA KAE AND SUBSTITUTED AN OFFICER JUNIOR TO THE DISTRICT OFFICER. THE NA KAE DISTRICT OFFICER GAVE A DETAILED AND HARD HITTING CRITICISM OF INADEQUACIES IN PERFORMANCES OF VIRTUALLY ALL RTG AGENCIES CONTRIBUTING TO 14/15. HIS EMPHASIS WAS ON MAKING A GOOD START SUCCEED BY SUSTAINING ITS MOMENTUM. THE NEW GOVERNOR OF NAKHON PHANOM, A MAN OF LONG EXPERIENCE IN THE PROVINCE, NOTED NEED FOR ADDITIONAL CI ASSETS TO DEAL WITH  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BANGKO 04134 150904 Z

CT SPILLOVER INTO DISTRICTS ADJACENT TO NA KAE FOLLOWING

OPERATION 14/15. THE POLICE IN NA KAE HAVE ADQUATE PERSONNEL FOR THEI ROLE IN PLAN 14/15 AT PRESENT BUT WILL REQUIRE MORE WHEN THE PLAN EXPANDS AS PROGRAMMED. RPOBLEMS OF INADQUATE POLICE WEAPONRY WERE HIGHLIGHTED. VARIOUS PARTS OF NA KAE DISTRICT HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED FOR RTA OR POLICE ACTIVITY ACCORDING TO THE FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED BY CSOC.

5. THE NA KAE DISTRICT OFFICER REBUTTED THE CONTENTION OF ARD DIRECTOR GENERAL PRASONG SUKHUM THAT ARD HAD THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING DEVELOPMENT IN THE DISTRICT. HE MAINTAINED THAT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE COORDINATED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

6. DOLA PRESENTED A PROGRAM FOR FORMATION OF PRONVICIAL MILITIA COMPANIES ( VDC) AND UPGRADING OF DISTRICT VDC COMPANIES TO LEAD TO ARMING OF VILLAGE SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT UNITS ( VSDU) OR OTHER VILLAGE SELF DEFENSE ELEMENTS IN RESPONSE TO GOVERNOR' S EXPRESSION OF DESIRE TO IMPROVE LOCAL SECUIRTY AT THE VILLAGE LEVEL. THE PROVINCES RINGING THE CT BASE AREA IN THE PHU PHAN MOUNTAINS WILL BE AMONG THE FIRST PRIORITY AREAS. THE GOVERNORS OF THOSE PROVINCES WELCOMED THE PROGRAM AFTER ASSURANCES THAT THE VDC WOULD BE UNDER THEIR CONTROL AND WOULD RECEIVE ADEQUATE TRAINING FROM THE RTA.

7. THE PARTICIPATION OF CSOC OFFICERS IN THE PRESENTATIONS AND IN LEADERSHIP OF THE MEANING REFLECTED IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENTS

IN THE COOPERATIVENESS OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS WITH THE RTG' S CENTRAL BODY FOR CI COORDINATION AND PLANNING.  
UNGER

CONFIDENTIAL

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BANGKO04134  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730330/aaaahvqk.tel  
**Line Count:** 149  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 BANGKOK 0128  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <26-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971208  
**Subject:** NORTHEAST REGIONAL CI MEETING  
**TAGS:** PINS, TH  
**To:** CINCPAC  
EA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
UDORN  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005